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University College

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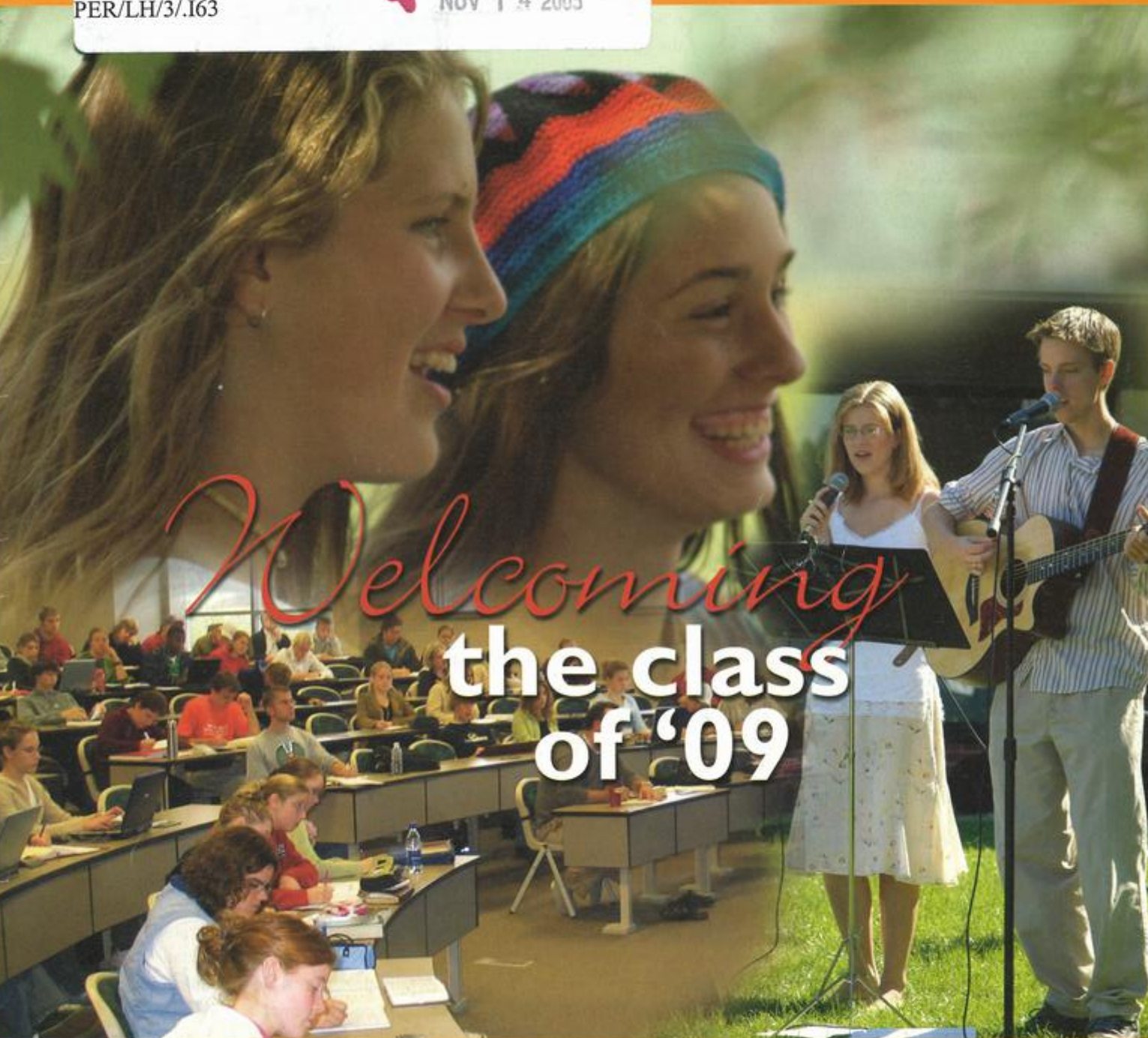
Redeemer University College

IMAGES

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Welcoming
the class
of '09

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Fall 2005

Ambassadors of Christ's Reconciliation



“This calling takes both personal and corporate forms; it includes academic service, personal evangelism and showing Christ's love in word and deed.”

-Justin D. Cooper

On September 7 we gathered for the opening convocation of the new academic year where we gave a special welcome to the new students of the Class of 2009, as well as to five new faculty members and five sessional faculty who have joined us.

Focussing on the theme, “Ambassadors of Christ's Reconciliation,” taken from II Corinthians 5:14-21, we were reminded of Christ's all-encompassing work of redemption and the manifold ways we are called to represent Christ as we relate to others and engage our culture. This calling takes both personal and corporate forms; it includes academic service, personal evangelism and showing Christ's love in word and deed. Being Christ's ambassadors knows no denominational, racial or national boundaries. Its focus can be local or can reach to other parts of the world.

This summer, for example, Redeemer's faculty were busy with scholarship that ranged from eastern orthodoxy to quarks, from the nature of authority to computer robotics. Our research centres were engaged in various conferences and publication efforts in hermeneutics, philosophy of science and other fields, that also included scholars from different parts of the world. Redeemer students were involved in mission and service trips reaching to other continents.

As we have begun the new academic year, I have been impressed with the number of students involved in reaching out to the community through volunteer activities, under the leadership of our Student Senate. At

least 25% of Redeemer's students are involved in this kind of activity, not including those in-field placements, internships and co-op programs that are part of their academic program. Many more are engaged in extra-curricular groups, clubs and activities on campus.

Being living ambassadors was also

evident in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and then Rita. In response, a team of eight social work students led by Dr. Tim Epp took up the challenge of participating in the

relief effort, under the auspices of the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. Two of our education students have also gone to Sierra Leone for four months to mount a literacy program in cooperation with a teachers college there, under the supervision of Dr. Johanna Kuyvenhoven.

Finally, at Homecoming, I had the privilege of meeting alumni who hold leadership positions in a variety of fields, building on the education they received at Redeemer. Pastors, teachers, lawyers, doctors, social workers, counselors, business people, homemakers, youth leaders—a wonderful array of callings and avenues of service, all as ambassadors of Christ's reconciliation.

Reflecting on the activities of our faculty, staff, students and alumni has only reinforced my appreciation for the important role that this institution plays in equipping and enabling the exercise of this calling. May the Lord continue to use Redeemer to engage our culture and to raise up a new generation of faithful ambassadors in the service of Jesus Christ. ■



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Front Cover: The start of the new academic year can be an anxious time. However, the Orientation program developed by the Student Life Department goes a long way in creating an environment that is welcoming, informative and fun. See the full story on page 6.

Looking Forward: In an upcoming issue of *Images*, we will explore the entrepreneurial work of Redeemer graduates. Not just those who were in the Business program, but those who studied Arts or Sciences as well. If you are a Redeemer alumni involved in operating your own business, we would like to hear from you. Please contact the Alumni Office at images@redeemer.on.ca, or 905.648.2139, Ext. 4292.

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"Why are you studying that?"

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Lasting Image

A bird's eye view of Redeemer's campus.

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President Cooper addresses the crowd at the Annual General Meeting, which was held in one of the new classrooms of the South Wing.

Celebration and Dedication at AGM

Redeemer University College's 25th Annual General Meeting was a celebration of God's faithfulness to Redeemer. Over 150 members of Redeemer attended the meeting, which included a dinner and a tour of the new lecture theatres and classrooms.

During the meeting, President Cooper shared some of the ways in which Redeemer has been blessed during this

past year – another balanced budget, record enrolment, the launch of the new Bachelor of Education program, the hiring of five committed and highly-qualified tenure-track faculty, over \$4.9 million contributed towards the *Growing with Integrity* Campaign, and an improving reputation for providing a quality undergraduate university education, both in our local community,

and in the academic community at large.

The AGM also provided an opportunity to dedicate the new classroom and lecture theatres that have been constructed as part of the second floor of the South Wing Addition. Even though the construction is on-going in the faculty offices and circulation area of the library, faculty and students are already enjoying the expanded facilities. The new library is now serving students and faculty through a closed-stack system – books are available by placing an order with Library staff through the Circulation Desk. The Peter Turkstra Library should be completely ready and functional later this fall, with the opening slated for November 17.

Mark your calendars and program your Palms for the official South Wing Dedication Service on January 26 (see page 5 for more information). ■

Ecological Study Promotes Wetland Protection

Redeemer's campus includes a wetland area that has been designated as an environmentally sensitive area by the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) and the City of Hamilton (see Lasting Image on inside back cover). The area is used by the Science Department for a variety of educational and research purposes, and its recreational value has long been appreciated by our students and the community at large.

Protection and improvement of this area has been an important part of the campus development program. In 2001,

the work of some of our faculty toward rehabilitating the wetland was recognized with a Watershed Stewardship Award from the Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program.

This summer, several Redeemer administrators and faculty met with HCA officials to seek advice on how best to proceed with developing a plan for our wetland. As a result of that meeting, LGL Environmental Research Associates of Burlington was retained to develop an ecological management plan for the wetland area.

Although LGL's work plan focuses

on the wetlands, the study encompasses the rest of the campus as well, putting that specific project in the context of the broader and longer term ecological plan for our campus. "It will serve as a resource for future environmental and campus planning activities," notes Bill van Staalduinen, Vice-President (Advancement), "and signifies our commitment to the stewardly use of our property." The Ecological Management Plan is currently being studied by Redeemer staff; information about its implementation will be announced in the future. ■



Foundation Wins Case with CRA

It has truly been a wonderful Thanksgiving season for the Redeemer Foundation. As reported in the last issue of Images, the Canadian Revenue Agency's Hamilton Tax Office, maintaining that the Foundation's Forgivable Loan Program was not a valid loan program, had begun reassessing Foundation donors and students retroactively for the 2001 and 2002 tax years.

The Foundation has been actively defending the program, which has benefited hundreds of students since its inception in 1987. It has challenged the actions of the CRA in the Federal Court of Canada on behalf of the donors and students being reassessed.

In the past month there have been two very significant developments in the case:

- On September 21 the CRA confirmed in writing that the program is in fact a valid loan program as described in their bulletin IT-340R. That is why they have stopped threatening participating students with reassessments.

- On October 4 the Federal Court rendered its judgment, and ruled completely in the Foundation's favour! The Court has ordered CRA to reverse all reassessments of donors that were based on information provided by the Foundation in the course of the CRA audit of its 2001 and 2002 tax years.

Bill van Staaldin, Vice-President (Advancement) and Executive Director of the Foundation comments that "This is an extraordinary success for which we thank the Lord. It is a wonderful answer to many, many prayers."

Miller Thomson, the legal firm retained by the Foundation, fully expects the CRA to appeal, and the Foundation together with its legal advisors will be working out some next steps in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, the Foundation asks that you join in giving thanks to God for this decision. We appreciate the support and encouragement that we have already received, notes van Staaldin, and we ask for your continued prayer support as we seek to do the Lord's will in this matter. ■

Knox Court Marks Next Stage of Campaign

Talk to any of the over 2,000 Redeemer University College alumni and they will tell you that campus life is an integral part of the learning environment at Redeemer. Each one will also tell you that it is time to grow and expand the residences to better meet the needs of students. Redeemer is planning to do just that with the upcoming construction of a block of independent and married student housing to be known as Knox Court.

Situated near the west entrance of the campus (see Lasting Image on inside back cover), the Knox Court Residence will be a step in developing our on-campus community and responding to



the needs of students.

This \$3.5 million project is a key facet of Redeemer's *Growing with Integrity* campaign. The campaign is approaching the \$10 million mark in donations to date, support so generous that the South Wing is expected to be paid for before it is even completed. Redeemer is grateful for the support it has received so far in this campaign, and looks forward to seeing the development through to its successful completion. ■

Upcoming South Wing Dedication Service

Redeemer University College invites friends and supporters to celebrate the completion of the South Wing, including the Peter Turkstra Library, at a **Dedication Ceremony on Thursday, January 26 at 8:00pm in the Auditorium.**

More Than Fun and Games

New school, new routines, new living arrangements, new responsibilities....

The start of the new academic year marks a transition for many students. Regardless of how excited, or hesitant, a new student may be, there is a lot to learn in the first few weeks, a period which can shape impressions that last throughout the entire university experience.

Although the entire campus community works at welcoming new students, responsibility for making the best first impression falls primarily to Activities and Orientation Coordinator Matt Pamplin. Working with the rest of the Student Life staff, and assisted by the students of the First-Year Redeemer Orientation Group (FROG Leaders) and the Freshman Daze committee, Pamplin plans a host of activities to welcome all students, but particularly new students, to campus.

It may appear that Orientation places a premium on having fun and getting to know one another. Sports, games, dances, hikes, concerts and off-campus trips are all part of the first two weeks of September. As Pamplin points out, however, that is only part of the process: "Our goal is to lead students to what the university experience at Redeemer is all about: spiritual growth, personal development, new friendships and expanded

horizons."

So beyond the mud, treats, fun and games, more useful workshops and seminars are held that, for example, help students find their way around the library, manage their finances, and catch the vision of Christian university education. Students are also introduced to the many ways they can serve others, both on- and off-campus, through volunteer activities.

An essential component of Orientation is encouraging each student's spiritual walk with God. Rev. Robb Powell, Redeemer's Chaplain, leads one of the Orientation workshops. "My goal," says Rev. Powell, "is to get students 'plugged in' to what is happening on campus." There are many venues for spiritual growth, such as dorm devotions, worship evenings, and small group studies. This year, Student Senate worked with the Chaplain to organize a "Church Fair." Almost 20 churches set up displays in the Centre Foyer, allowing students to become familiar with churches in the neighbourhood.

Overall, Orientation activities make for a very busy first few weeks on campus. However, it is an investment that pays dividends throughout a student's entire Redeemer experience. ■

Enrolment Slightly Down

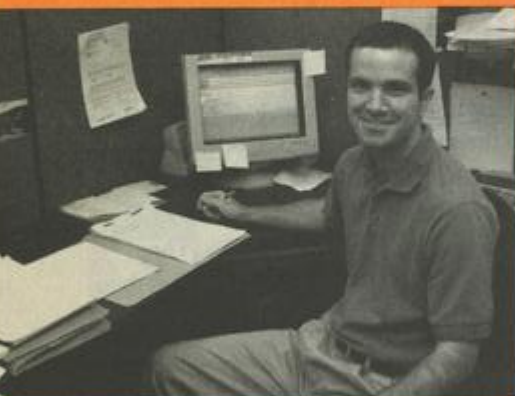
After six consecutive years of increased growth, enrolment at Redeemer University College dipped slightly this year. For the 2005-06 academic year, there are 849 students at Redeemer, which equals 816 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students. Last year, Redeemer served 822 FTE students.

Ms Marian Ryks-Szelekovsky, Senior Director of Admissions and Student Services, points out that other universities have also experienced a slight downturn in the number of new students. "Although the public universities in Ontario overall had a slight increase in the number of applications, many universities individually experienced a decline in applications and acceptances. In response, many public universities have been able to offer admission to students who in the past several years may not have been admitted. As a result, some students who applied to Redeemer and to other Christian post-secondary institutions were offered admission to a public university and decided to accept that offer. Moreover", Ryks-Szelekovsky points out, "we are also seeing more students choosing to pursue trades and studies at community college."

"We're still in good shape," notes President Cooper. "Even in a changing environment that may result in slower enrolment growth, Redeemer continues to offer a quality Christian education that is cost competitive with sister institutions." ■

Some other numbers on the 2005-06 student body:

- 202** New full-time students
- 26** Percentage of new students who did not start directly after high school; this includes mature students, transfer students, and anyone who took a year or more off before starting.
- 56** Students in the new Bachelor of Education program
- 31** Students from outside Canada
- 12** Countries represented
- 9** Provinces represented (missing Newfoundland and Labrador)



Need an Extra Hand?

Could your company or non-profit organization use an additional staff person? Need someone to join your team for a short-term placement—a student who is eager to learn and looking to develop, in a practical way, classroom skills and knowledge.

If you could use a little extra help, consider hiring a co-op student from Redeemer University College. Redeemer offers Co-operative Education programs in Business, Computer Science and Environmental Studies. For students, it is an opportunity to get "real world" experience; for employers, these four or eight-month placements are a chance to develop special projects, provide additional staffing, or aid whatever human resource needs your firm has.

Business Co-Op placements begin in January and May. Placements for Computer Science and Environmental Studies also begin in May. If you are interested in finding out more about how a Redeemer student can benefit your organization, please contact either Bill Brown, Supervisor of Co-operative Education, by calling 905-648-1926, or emailing: wjrbrown@sympatico.ca, or Jennifer Zuidema, Co-op Administrator, at 905-648-2131 x4228 or through e-mail: stlife@redeemer.on.ca. ■

Off-Campus becomes On-Campus



The Blue Castle has been home to Redeemer students since 1990.

In real estate, the three most important things are location, location, and location. Never has that been so true than for the scores of students who have lived "off-campus" at 723 Garner Road East, otherwise known as the Blue Castle. Located immediately to the west of the campus, it has been rented out to Redeemer students as far back as 1990-91.

The three-bedroom bungalow with blue siding was given its name by Charity Farenhorst Bylsma '01, after the Lucy Maud Montgomery book of the same name. Its appeal is obvious – it is technically off-campus, but so close that students can easily remain active in on-campus activities. In fact, those who live there have a shorter walk to the library than those who live in Augustine Hall.

Marianne Van Gurp Langendoen '01 enjoyed her two years living in the Blue Castle: "We were living on our own, yet close to everything on-campus." The extra measure of freedom from living off-campus, however, came with additional responsibilities as well. "At the time, on-campus students could pretty much get what they wanted from the Foodstore (which was part of their housing plan)," she notes. "But because we needed to buy food from a grocery store, we needed to be a bit more careful."

Redeemer Board Member Albert De Jong and his wife Liz (who are also parents of several Redeemer alumni) had owned, and rented out, the property since 1998. Late in 2004, the university purchased the property from the De Jongs, but the Blue Castle continues to house students. The only difference is that now it is "officially" part of the campus and falls under the purview of the Housing Office in Student Life.

For the first time in 14 years, the Blue Castle is empty this year as it undergoes an extensive renovation. Redeemer plans to return it as student housing in the 2006-07 academic year. ■



Cross-Country team member Peter Kranenburg makes his way through the course at the Sir Sanford Fleming Invitational Meet, held in Peterborough earlier this fall.

Varsity Teams in Full Swing

Redeemer's Athletic Department has once again had a busy start to the year. The cross-country and soccer teams complete their seasons by late October, just as the basketball, volleyball and hockey teams begin their seasons. Currently, both soccer teams are fighting for one of the last playoff spots. After several meets, a number of cross-country runners will likely qualify for the provincial championships. The volleyball teams appear solid once again, and are looking for contributions from their first-year players. The hockey team is looking to once again climb to the top of the standings in the Niagara Christian Hockey League.

There is also a lot of excitement surrounding the men's and women's basketball programs. Both teams are being led by first-year coaches who bring a great deal of enthusiasm to the game. The ladies are hoping to clinch a playoff spot as they play host this year to the Women's Provincial Basketball Championships.

Keep a close watch on all the scores and stories on Redeemer's NEW web page: www.redeemer.on.ca/athletics ■



Freeze! Three members of the Hamilton Police Service basketball team corner Redeemer's Nick Bokma as he prepares to shoot.

Students Battle Police – And Win!

The Redeemer University College men's basketball team edged out a team from the Hamilton Police Service in a charity game played at Redeemer this September. This was the first time members of the Police Service had played a charity basketball game at the collegiate level, and, led by 6'8" Jack Vanderpol, they were up for the challenge. Redeemer's team, however, hung on for a two-point victory in an exciting game in front of an enthusiastic crowd. The Royals were led by junior shooting guard Nick Bokma, who went off for 22 second half points to finish with a team high 25. Other notables were Dustin VanHouwelingen with 15, Kevin Renkema with 12 and Daniel Sawh with 10.

For the police, this was an opportunity to meet with the community in an informal way and raise money for the McMaster Children's Hospital. For Redeemer Coach Dwayne Washington, it was a way to give something back to the hospital where his newborn daughter spent a week this past summer. Coach Washington spoke about the charity at the game. Various basketball initiatives involving the police have been extremely successful in the past, building community relations throughout Hamilton, mentoring students, and raising over \$40,000. ■

Coming Events

All events held on Redeemer's campus at 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster unless otherwise noted.

Nov

9

The Bernard Zylstra Lecture Series

The Bernard Zylstra Lecture Series welcomes **Dr. Paul Marshall**, Senior Fellow at the Center for Religious Freedom in Washington D.C. A noted authority on Islam and the persecuted church, Dr. Marshall will be leading **Chapel** at 11:00am and giving a **public lecture** at 7:00 pm. Both events are free and will be in the Auditorium. For more information, please call 905.648.2131, Ext. 4414. Supported by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

Nov

17

Business Community Open House

The business community is invited to Redeemer's Fifth Annual Business Community Open House. Featuring the opening of the Peter Turkstra Library, tours of the new facilities, presentation of several **student awards**, and choir and theatre **rehearsals**, the Open House is a great way to **network** with other businesses from the Golden Horseshoe. For more information, please contact Janet McKenzie at 905.648.2131, Ext.4493 or email jmckenz@redeemer.on.ca.

Nov

22

→

Nov

26

The Tavern

This season's Main Stage play is "The Tavern" by George M. Cohan, directed by Associate Professor of Theatre Arts and Communications Ray Louter. A **preview** performance will take place on Tuesday, November 22 at 8:00pm, and there is a **matinee** performance on Wednesday, November 23 at 12:00 pm. The three **evening performances** will be on November 24, 25 and 26, beginning at 8:00pm. Tickets are \$12, Students/Seniors \$10. Matinee and Preview Performances are \$6. Tickets for the **Dinner & Theatre show** on November 25 at 6:00 pm are \$25.

Dec

1

Alison Pick Poetry Reading

Poetry Reading featuring Alison Pick, **4:15** in the Redeemer Boardroom. Presented in cooperation with the Canada Council for the Arts.

Ms Pick won the 2002 Bronwen Wallace Award, given by the Writers' Trust of Canada to the most promising unpublished writer under the age of 35. Her first collection of poems, Question and Answer, distinguished her as a writer of rare spiritual insight.

Dec

2

The Festive Voice

The Redeemer Concert Choir, Alumni Choir and Orchestra will be performing "The Festive Voice," conducted by Dr. Chris Teeuwssen. This concert of festive music for the Christmas Season will include music for Brass, Strings, Choir & Organ, as well as an audience "Carol Sing." The performance will take place at **8:00pm** in the Auditorium. Tickets are \$16, or \$14 for Student/Seniors.

Jan

26

South Wing Addition Grand Opening

Please join Redeemer for a celebration of the completion of the South Wing, including the **Peter Turkstra Library** at **8:00pm** in the Auditorium.

Russell Thornton Poetry Reading

Poetry Reading featuring Russell Thornton, **4:15** in the Redeemer Boardroom. Presented in cooperation with the Canada Council for the Arts.

Mr. Thornton's poems have appeared in numerous Canadian literary magazines and anthologies and he was the winner of the League of Canadian Poets National Contest in 2000.

Mar

2

Patrick Lane Poetry Reading

Poetry Reading featuring Patrick Lane, **4:15** in the Redeemer Boardroom. Presented in cooperation with the Canada Council for the Arts.

Born in Nelson, BC, Mr Lane was largely self-published until Oxford University Press published his Governor General's award-winning Poems, New and Selected in 1978.

CULTURE

the Christian College Campus

STRIVING TO BE IN THE WORLD, BUT NOT OF IT.

By Brianna Hammer '06

Popular culture and the arts, like any other sphere of life, should be approached with the discernment of a Reformed Christian perspective. The very word—discernment—calls for distinct perception, accurate judgement. How is one to perceive the culture of a fallen world? How is one to judge that culture, especially in an academic arena that acknowledges Christ as head over all? And

how can Christians faithfully engage in this culture by actively participating in it and offering God-glorifying gifts to the arts?

We must admit that culture, no matter how broken it appears to us today, was not created this way. Like every other aspect of creation, popular culture is redeemable,

with inherent good to be found within it. Although academics may have a particular calling to study the world, it is the task of all Christians to recognize the potential good in today's culture and not shy away from its more lurid aspects. By taking part in culture with discernment, Christians can use their

“Like every other aspect of creation, popular culture is redeemable, with inherent good to be found within it.”

participation as a tool to understand the world, and to act within it to shine a light upon God's glory.

Redeemer University College is answering this call to engage in the world and seek out the good. Whether it is in the classroom, on the stage, or in downtown Hamilton, Redeemer students and faculty are actively approaching the arts with God-centered hearts and wide-open eyes.

Culture is Not Optional

Dr. Timothy Epp, Associate Professor of Sociology, smiled when asked why it is important for students to engage in popular culture: "Students are engaging in popular culture whether they realize it or not," he pointed out. "The question should be *how* are we to engage in popular culture, not *if*."

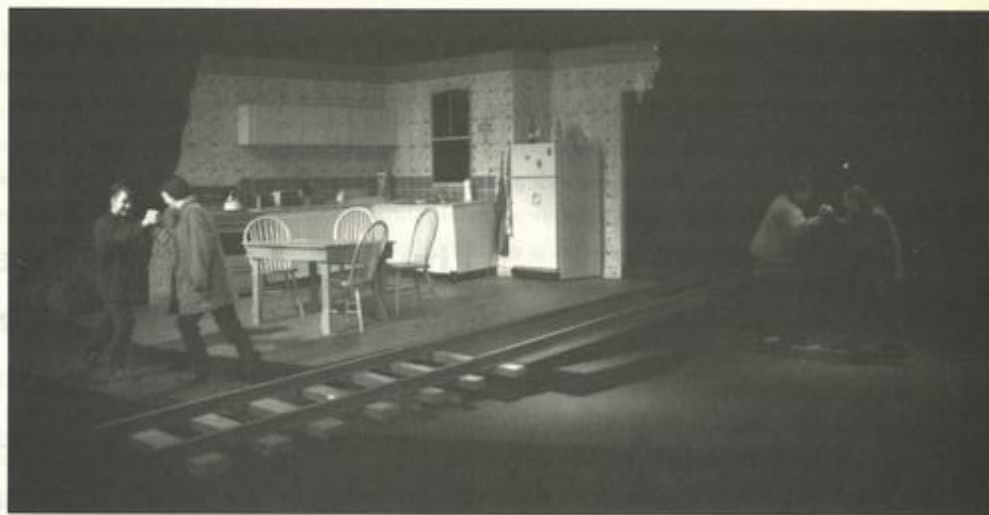
At the heart of Dr. Epp's "pop" culture classes is the desire to equip students with the tools to discern popular culture within a Reformed Christian worldview. He points out that there is a certain goodness one can find in creativity—admittedly a gift from God—but that the fallen human nature that impacts such a gift must also be recognized. Students are expected and encouraged to show concern about the things they encounter in class and also in their day-to-day activities. Interactions with and discussions about current popular material are central to lessons (for example, viewing film clips or dissecting popular literature); presentations also allow students to raise questions and put forth and seek opinions. Faith-based musicians have also visited the classroom to share the pressures and struggles they encounter as they try to express their faith in a largely secular marketplace. Furthermore, students are encouraged to bring to the class their own experiences and questions about culture.

Dr. Epp himself goes beyond the classroom, encouraging students to use their discernment in engaging in culture and notifying them of opportunities to do so. By penning a regular "Cultural Engagements" column for the student newspaper, *The Crown*, Dr. Epp hopes to guide readers—whether they are faculty

The 2005 Spring Main Stage production of Judith Thompson's *Perfect Pie* addressed a number of difficult issues. It was also a case study of how Redeemer deals with concerns over language and content that is found in much popular culture.



or students—in an engagement of popular culture outside of Redeemer and an exclusively Christian atmosphere. He also promotes magazines, such as *Paste*, which examine contemporary music and films that go beyond today's popular fads and contain some substance; *Paste's* stated aim is to find "signs of life in music, film and culture." Behind this encouragement is the attitude that all of creation is open to redemption, and that the Christian's task is to find the good within popular culture. Clearly, in order to engage appropriately in popular culture, one must be aware of what is actually taking place within it.



A License to Investigate

Last fall, Redeemer University College's Theatre Arts Department chose to stage performances of Judith Thompson's *Perfect Pie*, a work that deals intimately with difficult issues such as rape and abuse. The question arose as to how to deal with the sensitive subject matter, and the play's blasphemous use of God's name, in a way that remained realistic and true to the playwright's vision. Out of concern that some supporters of Redeemer's Theatre department would be offended by the language used or the situations presented in the play, the play's run was cut back to

a reduced number of shows and the viewings were restricted to the Redeemer community and a few selected guests.

The main concern in presenting *Perfect Pie* lay with accessibility issues. It raised an important question: With what expectations do Christians approach a play produced by other Christians? While Redeemer's

Theatre Arts department's mission is "to explore the dramatic expression of the human condition," sensitivity is required in producing a work that does not necessarily fit the model of what is expected of a "Christian" play.

The definition of what makes art or theatre decidedly "Christian" influences the expectations of theatre-goers. What does one mean when a play or movie is labeled "Christian?" Does the work simply have to be produced by a Christian? Or should it always have an explicitly Christian ideology woven through it? Director Ray Louter strives to produce plays that he feels will resonate with the audience, while at the same time referencing Biblical ideals and contrasting them with human failures. Those involved in *Perfect Pie* honestly portrayed the brokenness of humanity, while highlighting referenced Biblical ideals about the friendship that was foundational to the plot and character development. Louter's director's notes stated that the production intended to bring to light "the deeper, more hidden parts of the human experience."

"It is important to communicate to people what you're doing and why you're doing it, with advanced warning," Louter explains. "As Christians we have a license to investigate the world, and we may be surprised by what we find."

Louter admits that Christian audiences are more difficult to please because they want answers. "[But] theatre functions more fruitfully as a question," he says.

"There is more to a play than the message that is preached at any given moment. We need to remove presuppositions and see the play as more than just the actions of a character."

The question lies in how the Redeemer community is to actively and honestly engage in culture while maintaining a Christian presence and worldview. Louter is impressed with Redeemer's presence in its surrounding community. Intense

advertising draws in outside people for arts events on campus, such as choir concerts and the twice-annual Mainstage theatre productions. As a teaching institution, Redeemer must network with people in the public sphere. It is important to draw others in to see, experience, and support what takes place on campus.

In the case of *Perfect Pie*, some potentially offensive bits of dialogue were modified with the playwright's permission and the show was re-opened to the broader community. Students and staff, however, were reminded of the academic framework

within which the play was to be viewed. The world was willingly, though carefully, explored through culture and the arts, and, in this case, truth about humanity was accessed via the stage.

Literature as a Means to Examine the World

Literature has a tendency to push a reader out of his or her own world and into another, less familiar one. Dr. Deborah Bowen, Associate Professor of English, feels that studying literature at Redeemer presents students with a wonderful opportunity to engage safely in and question popular culture and the arts in a Christian environment, amongst peers. Although literature that asks questions of the Christian faith may be spiritually difficult to study, such study encourages independent thinking that goes beyond the relative safety of a classroom. "No matter where one finds oneself," Dr. Bowen

advises, "the question should always be asked: 'How am I going to act as a Christian here?'"

Dr. Bowen feels it is imperative to examine the same works that secular schools study, especially if the works offer a negative or questioning commentary on Christianity. These investigative readings make students aware of how God is working in culture,

even in the non-Christian work of gifted artists. This study also equips students to discern, defend, and handle potential attacks to their faith.

Many students come to her Contemporary Fiction course expecting escapist or "formula" Christian literature, so they are surprised by many of the required secular readings—and the implications. Indeed, the course does not offer to protect

"The question should be how are we to engage in popular culture, not if."

"...sensitivity is required in producing a work that does not necessarily fit the model of what is expected of a 'Christian' play."

students from fiction or ideas that they may find challenging or disturbing to their faith. Rather, the aim of the class is to provide a safe environment in which to discuss such texts and learn from the different worldviews they present. Indeed, one cannot avoid the world in literature, as literature provides students with a problem or scene that they *must* enter into. At the beginning of each semester, Dr. Bowen explains the course's intent and purpose, and the reasoning behind her choice of works to be studied. Fictional content is chosen on the basis of its cultural, critical, and spiritual significance. Each novel must say something significant about contemporary culture and worldview; it must also be a work of acclaim (that is, judged to be skillfully written and successfully published), and finally, it must also contain religious content, whether it be critical of the Christian faith or overtly spiritual.

In upper-level courses, students are encouraged to experience Canadian poetry and literature within the community, and thus work out their mandate to engage in culture beyond the classroom. Students have experienced rap poetry in downtown Hamilton, joined literary gatherings at McMaster University and at art galleries, and reported back to the class regarding their discoveries. Guided by the same aim,

Dr. Bowen also works to bring renowned poets to the Redeemer campus for readings sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts (see page 9). The visits have been very successful in terms of giving students the opportunity to host gifted poets and interact with contemporary literature, and also by promoting Redeemer within literary and cultural circles.

Literature Through the Eyes of Faith, a popular work which

is also required reading in introductory fiction and poetry courses at Redeemer, discusses the value of literature at great length. All literary talent (whether secular or Christian-minded) is viewed as a gift from God, useful for recognizing, cultivating, and delighting in the potential

“No matter where one finds oneself, the question should always be asked: ‘How am I going to act as a Christian here?’”

of God's world, while at the same time attempting to understand how to act within in the world. All of the arts display not only the brokenness of the fall, but also the potential for future redemption. Redeemer University College not only brings a distinctive Christian presence to the Hamilton arts community, it also trains and equips individuals to act discerningly and faithfully while engaging with a worldly culture. ■



Brianna Hammer is a fourth-year History major from Alvinston, ON. She is the Layout Editor and a Senior Staff Writer for *The Crown*.

Critique and Create

Student Club Works out Response to Culture

Examining culture through the eyes of faith is not an activity that is limited to the classroom: *Thresh* is a student-led group that seeks to be God-centred while creating and engaging in culture (see p. 21 for more information on student clubs).

The members of *Thresh* meet monthly to address issues of culture and Christianity. Their meetings may include speakers who provide insight into media and culture, or a discussion on a challenging piece of culture. *Thresh* hosts movie nights, inviting all students to watch and discuss films that often have disturbing elements. On other occasions, *Thresh* will invite students to bring in the lyrics of a popular song to examine what is being said, and the underlying messages of the song.

However, *Thresh* does more than just critique and discuss

what's "out there." It sponsors events throughout the year where Redeemer students are encouraged to create and share their cultural creations. *Thresh Uncovered*, a venue for songwriters to perform original material, is one such event. After performing, there is the opportunity for the musicians to discuss their compositions with the audience. *Thresh* also hosts Open Mic nights, a similar activity for poets and other spoken-word artists.

The name *thresh* comes from the process, frequently referred to in the bible, whereby wheat was separated from chaff. "We understand that, through common grace, there is much in popular culture that can be helpful and even truthful in the way we look at the world," notes Seth Veenstra, a fourth-year English major and member of *Thresh*. "However, we also want to be intentional about the role of faith and culture, and to work out some of the issues that arise from that relationship in a very real and practical way." ■

Redeemer WELCOMES New Faculty!

Redeemer University College is grateful that God continues to provide committed Christian faculty to serve our academic community, and we wish these new instructors and researchers God's richest blessings as they continue to follow His direction for their lives in this place. Seth Veenstra, a fourth-year English major from Toronto, ON, introduces Redeemer's newly appointed tenure-track faculty members.

Steve Sider has a passion for global education. The new Assistant Professor of Education hopes to encourage Redeemer students to go overseas and see how God has worked in different ways in different countries. "There's a worldview we as Christians need to foster that can only come from actually being in other places," explains Sider.

Sider's ideas on global education are rooted in his personal history. As a boy, he spent the first seven years of his life in India, where his parents were educators, missionaries, and community health workers.

Sider's graduate work also reflects his interest in global education. While doing his masters and PhD, Sider studied the linguistic experiences of Canadian immigrant children. Sider looked primarily at the emotional and cognitive aspects of the issue, but he hopes to explore the spiritual side as well.

After a double degree in History and Political Science at Wilfred Laurier ('90), Sider did his Bachelor of Education at Western and his Masters of Education at Brock ('00). He will graduate from Western with his PhD later this year.

His wife, Karen, and their three kids, Emily, Carlee, and C.J., enjoy camping, sports, and traveling.

DR. DARREN PROVOST
Assistant Professor of History

Jane Lee Sinden is not afraid to talk about emotions. The new Assistant Professor of Physical Education is aware that emotions can be taboo in sports; however, she hopes to encourage athletes and students to listen to their emotions – to ask themselves what their emotions are telling them.

As an elite rower for sixteen years, Sinden has much personal experience to draw on in this regard. Throughout her professional career she was constantly aware of the negative connotations surrounding the subject of emotions. Weakness and strong emotion were often seen as synonymous.

After her professional career ended, Sinden began to explore the role of emotions in the lives of elite athletes. She wrote her PhD thesis on why athletes stay in professional sports despite health problems, and she learned about the manipulation and suppression of emotions that athletes impose on themselves. "In sport we're told to be tough to hide emotions," says Sinden "[but] we can't hide emotions; we need to manage them properly." Sinden notes that violence, dropping out, and alcoholism are common results of the inability of athletes to manage their emotions.

Sinden began her studies at Queens. She graduated in 1992 with a degree in Economics and Political Science before moving to the Canadian capital for rowing: St. Catherines. After a year of training (& waitressing), Sinden returned to school to do another degree, this time in Physical Education and Kinesiology at Brock, where she was named Athlete of the Year in 1995.

MR. STEVE SIDER
Assistant Professor of Education

DR. JOHN VAN RYS
Professor of English

Next she completed a Bachelor of Education, also at Brock ('00), and a masters at Western ('01). She is hoping to defend her PhD thesis this Christmas.

Sinden recently got married and she enjoys spending lots of time with her two stepchildren and husband Herb.

Darren Provost, a historian of Europe in its early-modern period, is the newest addition to Redeemer's History Department. A native of Northern B.C., Provost admits his academic biography is an unusual one.

Shortly after becoming a Christian, Provost began to long for work that was more meaningful to him. He had been working in sales and marketing for ten years, and felt a desire to go into ministry full-time as a pastor. Provost quit his job and began full-time studies at the University of British Columbia, where he quickly fell in love with History. He also began to feel that God's call was not to ministry as a pastor. He switched into the honours History program and graduated in 1996.

After two years at Regent College in Vancouver, Darren and his wife, Debbie, moved to Connecticut so Darren could pursue graduate studies at Yale. There on a full fellowship, Provost completed three degrees: a Master of Arts (2000), a Masters of Philosophy (2001), and a PhD (2005). His studies, a joint program in Renaissance Studies and History, emphasized History's interdisciplinary nature. This approach influences the way Provost teaches History: rather than focus exclusively on the political developments in history, Provost incorporates art, religion, literature, architecture, and other historical elements into his lecture content.

In the future, Provost hopes to turn his dissertation, which dealt with the changes in marriage law that accompanied the Reformation, into a book. Besides working on his book and his position at

Redeemer as an Assistant Professor, Provost is looking forward to getting settled in Hamilton with his wife.

After teaching part-time for a number of years, **Gord Cockell** joins the Business Department this year as a full-time Assistant Professor of Business. When asked what brought him to Redeemer, Cockell responded, "God." It is clear to Cockell that God's plan was for him to teach in a Christian environment.

Cockell brings a wealth of experience to his current position. He has worked for the CBC as Director of Operations, Marketing and Sales, and has also held various other positions in advertising and promotion. Cockell is also a graduate of Tyndale College and Seminary and a former Christian high school teacher.

Apart from teaching, Cockell and his wife run a retreat home called "The Joshua House," a place of rest for missionary families in limbo. The couple lives there alongside the missionary families they serve. Information and pictures can be found at www.thejoshuahouse.ca.

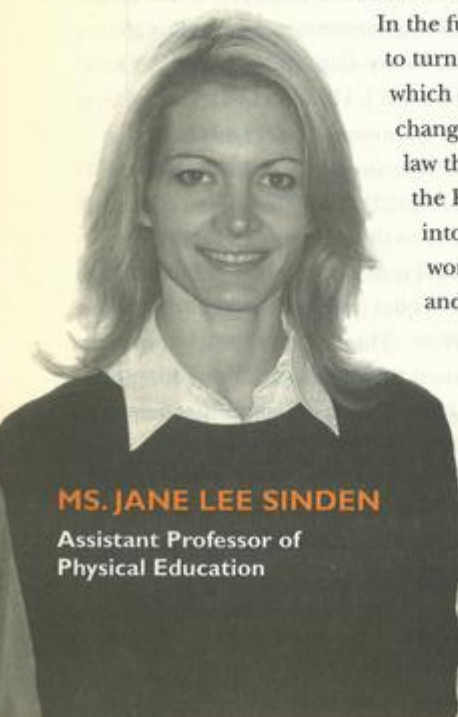
John Van Rys loves Canadian literature. In fact, his love for CanLit is – in part – what brought him to Redeemer. Teaching a whole range of CanLit courses is a facet that Van Rys finds particularly exciting about his new job in Redeemer's English department as Professor of English.

Van Rys did his undergraduate ('84) and masters ('85) degrees at Western before studying at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia. At Dalhousie, Van Rys studied primarily Canadian literature and ended up doing his PhD thesis on Al Purdy. He graduated from Dalhousie in 1991 and went on to teach at Dordt College in Iowa for fifteen years.

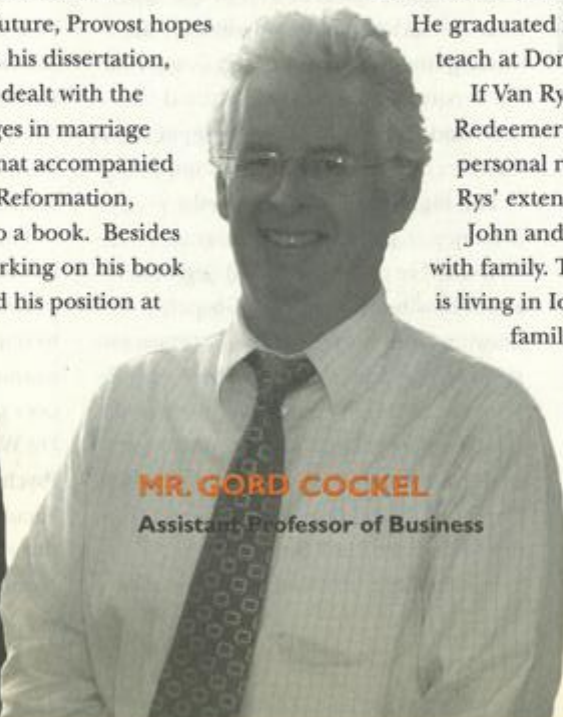
If Van Rys' professional reason for coming to Redeemer is a love for Canadian literature, his personal reason is a love for family – most of Van Rys' extended family lives in Southern Ontario.

John and his wife April spend much of their time with family. They have four children, one of whom is living in Iowa, while the other three live on the family's farm just outside of Dunnville.

Home life is especially busy right now since their farmhouse needs a lot of fixing up. Fortunately, home renovations are a favourite hobby of John and April. "We're do-it-yourselfers," he says. ■



MS. JANE LEE SINDEN
Assistant Professor of
Physical Education



MR. GORD COCKELL
Assistant Professor of Business

Summer Camp for Academics

Redeemer is home to three research centres, each of which were involved in academic conferences over the summer. Not only do these centres provide a vehicle for Redeemer faculty to carry out their research, they are wonderful opportunities for faculty to work with scholars in their field from around the world. Here is a brief summary of this summer's conferences:

When in Rome...

From June 23-25, the Scripture and Hermeneutics Seminar held its eighth international consultation, this time meeting in Rome. Dr. Craig Bartholomew, H. Evan Runner Professor



Dr. Craig Bartholomew confers with Cardinal Marc Ouellette, Archbishop of Quebec City and Primate of the Roman Catholic Church of Canada at the Scripture and Hermeneutics Seminar.

of Philosophy and Professor of Religion and Theology is the Director of the seminar, and he worked closely with faculty from the world-renowned Pontifical Biblical Institute to organize the event. Several Redeemer faculty and students were among the participants.

The Seminar aims to renew biblical interpretation so that more biblical scholarship can serve the church and help it to hear God's address, rather

than undermine the church, as so often happens. Meeting in Rome was intentional; a growing number of outstanding Catholics have been coming to the meetings and in Rome, where the theme was the Canon of Scripture and Biblical Interpretation, approximately half the delegates were Catholic, including Cardinal Marc Ouellette, Primate of Canada, Archbishop Terrence Prendergast (Halifax, Nova Scotia), and Dr. Jean Vanier (France).

The meetings were held in a large room on the top floor of the Pontifical Biblical Institute, a short distance away from the Gregorian University – both right at the centre of Rome with all its amazing architecture and historical sites. With St. Peter's nearby and priests and nuns in clerical garb from all over the world going in and out of the Gregorian University, Dr. Bartholomew noted that "one had a strong sense of being at a major centre of the Christian church."

The highlight for many was the presence of Dr. Vanier, founder of L'Arche. He addressed the delegates about how he reads John's Gospel, drawing from his recent book, *Drawn into the Mystery of Jesus through the Gospel of John* (Novalis, 2004). The Seminar discussed how to relate biblical study to this kind of deep, devotional reading of the Bible. Copies of the book can be obtained from the Redeemer Book Store.

See the Scripture and Hermeneutics

website www.sahs-info.org for more information about the Seminar.

Science (and or vs.) Scripture

The Pascal Centre was privileged to welcome more than thirty participants and observers to this summer's workshop, entitled *Interpreting Nature and Scripture: History of a Dialogue*, relating historic developments in science – or natural philosophy in the centuries before the modern era – to those in Biblical interpretation.

Traveling from Australia, Europe, Canada and all parts of the US, guests included such authors as Peter Harrison (*The Bible, Protestantism, and the Rise of Natural Science*. Cambridge U.P.: 1998) and Kenneth J. Howell (*God's Two Books: Copernican cosmology and biblical interpretation in early modern science*. U. of Notre Dame Press: 2002).

The workshop demonstrates the increased research interest in Biblical hermeneutics and its dynamic relation to science. This summer's workshop examined the varying positions adopted over the centuries by scientific scholars. Dr. Wayne Norman, Professor of Psychology and Director of Research and Faculty Development, commented that the atmosphere on Redeemer's campus "contributed to our workshop goal of

encouraging open and challenging academic dialogue." Results of the conference – the publications, journal and book formats now actively being developed – will appear sometime after 2007.

New Starts at the Dooyeweerd Centre

Although the Dooyeweerd Centre for Christian Philosophy did not host a conference this year, it has been active on a number of fronts. Displaced by the construction in the main building this summer, the Centre hopes to occupy its new, permanent office in the Peter Turkstra Library by Christmas. In other developments, Professor Theodore Plantinga was named Editorial Consultant of the Centre, and retired Professor Harry Van Dyke was appointed as the new Director. Both bring a wealth of experience and connections to the ambitious project of translating and publishing the Collected Works of Herman Dooyeweerd. This project began 10 years ago and has so far produced 10 books, marking roughly the halfway point.

At its most recent meeting, the Governing Council instructed Van Dyke to do everything possible to complete the translation project in the next 7 or 8 years. He has also been asked to draw up proposals for expanding the Centre's outreach in the interest of its long-range mission to promote uncompromising and integral, genuinely Christian philosophy. The Dooyeweerd Centre website – <http://www.redeemer.on.ca/Dooyeweerd-Centre> has an updated list of all its various activities. ■

Filling Out the Faculty Roll

Besides the full-time tenure track faculty who were introduced in the Centre Spot, Redeemer University College is blessed to have a number of Adjunct faculty members and part-time instructors. All of these instructors are qualified in their field, and most of them hold corresponding advanced degrees. Furthermore, as many of these instructors also work elsewhere, they bring other experiences to the classroom, supplementing the students' programs.

Sessional Faculty

Diane Dent - *French*
Benita Wolters-Fredlund '96 - *Music*
Dianne Moroz - *Physical Education*
*Mark Bowald - *Religion & Theology*
*Mark Lambert - *Mathematics & Physics*
*Gwynne McAneney Lannen
Lab instructor

Fall Only

Mike Baker '93 - *Physical Education*
Elaine Botha - *Philosophy*
Brad Heidbuurt '00 - *Physical Education*
Fran Huberts - *Education*
David van der Woerd - *Business*
David Antscherl - *Theatre Arts*
Robert MacLarkey - *Social Work*
Henk Van Dooren - *Social Work*
Harry VanDyke - *History*
*Christine Vaughan - *Social Work*
Linda Williams - *Education*
Dave Mantel '99 - *Physical Education*

Winter Only

Janet Baker - *Social Work*
Harry Blyleven '93 - *Education*
Tom Carson - *Mainstage Director*
*Jerry Creedon - *Education*
*Erin Goheen '03 - *English*
Chad Hillier
Philosophy and Religion & Theology
*Jean Nepo - *Chemistry*
Peter Noteboom - *Political Science*
Charlotte Vander Hoek - *Social Work*
Jim Vreugdenhil - *Education*

Fall and Winter

Peter Bulthuis - *Geography*
Angela Reitsma Bick '01
Writing Centre and English
Hugh Cook - *English*
Sara Croke - *Biology*
Karen Dieleman - *English*
Agnes Kramer-Hamstra - *English*
Helen Vreugdenhil '87 - *History*
Gideon Strauss - *Philosophy*
Robert DiFrancesco - *Spanish*
Dirk Schouten - *English*
*Tim Sheridan - *Religion & Theology*
James Tughan - *Art*
Julia Ubertelli - *Music*
Petra Zantingh - *Art and Education*
*Henrietta Van Dolderen - *Dutch*

Summer (2005)

Harry Blyleven - *Education*
Gene Haas - *Religion & Theology*
Syd Hielema - *Education*
Helen Plaisier - *Education*
Steve Sider - *Education*
Jim Vreugdenhil - *Education (Windsor)*
John Vriend - *Education*
Petra Zantingh - *Education*

*First-time Instructors

One Hundred Years of Nuclear Energy



Professor of Physics and Mathematics Dr. Wytse (Vince) van Dijk has been at Redeemer since 1982. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Physics at McMaster University, where he continues to do research in nuclear physics.

The year 2005 has been declared the World Year of Physics, an international celebration of physics endorsed by the United Nations. One hundred years ago Albert Einstein, in a single year, published most of his outstanding discoveries. The year 1905 is Einstein's *annus mirabilis*, his miracle year. Among those discoveries is the famous result that matter can be converted into energy, summarized by the remarkably simple equation $E=mc^2$. Thus the July 1, 1946 cover of *Time* magazine features Einstein's portrait with a mushroom cloud embellished with this equation the background. Although Einstein, the theoretical physicist, was not involved in developing practical uses of his theories, he has been credited by many as the inaugurator of the nuclear age.

It was unfortunate that the potential of

nuclear energy was first so spectacularly demonstrated through the explosive power of nuclear weapons. In fact, 2005 also marks the 60th anniversary of the atomic blasts that destroyed the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. Negotiations with countries such as North Korea and Iran over their use of nuclear energy continue to raise concerns over its destructive power.

On the other hand, nuclear scientists and engineers have learned to harness and control this source of energy as an answer to the increasing global appetite for energy. Uranium is the third leading source of electricity generation world-wide, following coal and hydro. This summer, in the face of regular warnings of brown-outs and a record number of "smog-alert days" – caused in large part by the burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity – Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty mused publicly about increasing his province's nuclear generating capacity.

Nuclear energy is a mixed blessing. The generation of nuclear power is much cleaner than coal-fuelled power. The latter requires huge amounts of fuel and is a source of air pollutants and greenhouse gases, which contribute to global warming. In contrast, nuclear plants require a comparatively small amount of fuel and emit little atmospheric pollution.

There is the nagging problem, however, of the disposal of nuclear waste. This material remains highly radioactive for centuries, if not millennia. Although

the industry is actively searching for solutions, we have no experience with isolating materials from the environment for thousands of years. Because of accidents, such as Chernobyl and Three Mile Island, a general perception prevails of the disastrous consequences of nuclear energy. However, we must recognize all the consequences of coal power generation as well, including the environmental costs that arise from its mining, transportation and processing, as well as the pollutants that are emitted while it is being burned.

"Since energy has been relatively easy to obtain in the Western world, we have developed wasteful habits. No doubt responsible use could slow if not halt the increasing demand."

One lesson to be learned is that the any large-scale generation of energy is not without side effects. Since energy has been relatively easy to obtain in the Western world, we have developed wasteful habits. Undoubtedly, responsible use could slow, if not halt, the increasing demand for energy. This is especially important as developing countries are starting to significantly increase their energy needs.

We celebrate scientific discoveries and their applications, just as we do with insights in other areas. However, as we see with nuclear energy, even a century might not be enough to address all the issues that arise with each discovery. Whatever insights – and their requisite challenges – we do uncover, our responsibility is to address them in ways that honour the creation and its Creator. ■

It Takes a Village...

Collaborative Effort Leads Two Students to Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest counties of the world. Ravaged by decades of civil war and conflict, it is a place where the literacy rate is 36%, and where even the most rudimentary education is beyond the reach of many. However, thanks to a faculty member with a real heart for the people of Sierra Leone, a new government program, and staff members tenacious enough to jump through the many hoops of its application process, two Redeemer students will become part of the effort to build up the educational infrastructure of the country.

Loreen Deelstra, a third-year French major in the Education program from Wyoming, ON and Katie McBride, an Honours English and French major from Toronto, left for Sierra Leone on October 6. They have received Canada Corps University Partnership Program (CCUPP) Internships, a pilot program of Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), which allows students to go abroad to promote good governance and institution-building in developing countries alongside experienced local mentors.

As a member of the AUCC, which is managing the program, Redeemer was allotted one, and subsequently entered a competition to earn a second, internship. With help from the Registrar, Mr. Richard Wikkerink, Ms Deelstra and Ms McBride had applied for the program this past spring. "It says something about Redeemer's proposal that we were able to secure two internships; there were only 100 positions available, and every member school of the AUCC was able



(l-r) Loreen Deelstra, Richard Wikkerink, Johanna Kuyvenhoven, Redeemer's Chaplain Rev. Robb Powell, and Katie McBride after the chapel service where Loreen and Katie were commissioned for their trip to Sierra Leone.

to submit applications." That's not to say that it was easy, however. "It is a grueling process," notes Wikkerink. "As an institution, we needed to prove that we had the field support in place, and we had to develop a project that matches Redeemer's program of study with the Canada Corps Internship program's goal of developing 'good governance' in environments of such need."

Redeemer's proposal: the development of early literacy materials which enrich and extend current capacities and abilities for the teaching of reading in primary schools – received unanimous approval from the CCUPP's Selection Committee.

The research is being directed by Dr Johanna Kuyvenhoven, Assistant Professor of Education, in close collaboration with teaching staff at Milton Margai College of Education and Technology (MMCET). The students will be researching current literacy practices,

existing elementary school language arts curricula, links between home and school print practices and observed classroom strategies for the teaching of reading and writing. They will publish a reading-writing primer and teacher's manual for the teaching of early reading and writing abilities, as well as a manual for teachers to incorporate cooperative learning strategies in elementary language arts classrooms.

Dr. Kuyvenhoven has lived in Sierra Leone and returned many times to help develop literacy and teacher training programs in the north part of the country. It was largely through her connections at MMCET that this program was developed. "Forty percent of all teachers in Sierra Leone have no formal training," she notes. "Loreen and Katie's work will give local educators material and strategies to at least begin the massive effort of improving literacy."

Continued on page 20...

Redeemer Aids in Katrina Relief

In the face of large-scale natural disasters, people, governments and institutions often ask themselves, "How best can I help?" In response to Hurricane Katrina, Redeemer consulted with the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCCU) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) to help determine how it could be of greatest assistance to those affected by the storm. Several universities in the storm's path were severely damaged and unsure if they would be able to provide an education for their students. In response to that need, Redeemer offered as many spaces as possible for qualified displaced students, with plans to charge them for room and board only, and reimbursing their travel costs.

Although no student accepted the offer, Redeemer has been active in other relief efforts. A fund-raising effort, led by Annual Fund Coordinator Janet McKenzie, raised \$2,160 for the Katrina Relief Fund of the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC), and a team of eight students, co-led by Assistant Professor of Sociology Dr. Tim Epp, traveled to the area for a week to assist with CRWRC-sponsored relief efforts. ■

Bike Tour Challenging, Rewarding

As noted in the last issue of Images, a number of Redeemer students, staff and alumni participated in the Christian Reformed Church's Sea to Sea bike tour, celebrating 100 years of the denomination in Canada. Redeemer, which has deep ties with the CRC, was pleased to be able to support the tour as a sponsor. Lauren Harrison, a first-year student from Hamilton, ON, shares her experiences of the trip:

People ask me how my summer was. Well, I tell them that I did the Sea to Sea bike tour. "Oh, you biked across Canada? That's neat." Neat? As if I could possibly sum up ten and a half weeks' worth of experiences in a single word! There is no way I could impart just what a meaningful, painful, glorious, frustrating and triumphant summer I had.

Each day I was faced with the challenge to keep going. Inch my way up to the mountain pass. Finish the never-ending stretch of highway. Fight against the wind and heat, or the cold and rain. Fortunately, there were lots of people praying for me. Support crews supplied shade in the prairies, shelter in the pouring rain, and water and snacks every twenty or thirty kilometers. As cyclists, we encouraged and came to each other's aid. Whether it was a draft, a spare part, or a hug that was needed, someone was around to help. We were also able to witness to people all across Canada about God's power and love and the Christian Reformed Church.



Lauren dips her tire in the Atlantic Ocean at the end of the Sea to Sea tour. She cycled over 7700 kms. after dipping it again in the Pacific.

God taught me what it meant to trust Him completely, and gave me a glimpse of how He can work through anyone who is willing, even someone with as many doubts as I had.

For more information on the Sea to Sea bike tour, visit www.seatosea.org. ■

"Sierra Leone" Continued from page 19...

The interns' research and outcomes are part of a larger project that is developing the facilities and capacities in Sierra Leone to raise national literacy statistics so that the people there may more fully engage issues of good governance. This project is being undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through the CIDA.

Watch for a full report about this project in an upcoming issue of *Images*. ■

Clubs Enrich Campus Life

Life as a student at Redeemer is nothing if not diverse. Beyond the demands of a university education and the joys and challenges of residence life (or living off-campus), students have a host of extra-curricular activities from which to choose.

Even beyond those activities, most of which are supported or organized by Redeemer, there are dozens of other student-organized groups called Clubs. Organized by students, and often supported by Student Senate, Clubs are vehicles through which Redeemer students can participate in a wide variety of athletic, volunteer, spiritual, and cultural activities. They also provide a gateway for students to explore their interests and develop their gifts. Here is a sample of some of the Clubs at Redeemer this year:

4-Adonai

A praise band that leads youth retreats and congregations outside Redeemer.

Alpha Praise

Another praise and worship team whose members seek to use their God-given musical abilities on the road approximately twice a month.

Church in the Box

CITB is a student-run contemporary worship service held monthly in the auditorium. It consists of music, drama, and prayer teams.

Hot Spot

Once a month, on Friday nights, students spend time worshipping God, socializing, and enjoying snacks in different dorms.

Mosaic Club

Encourages students to come out and teach or learn about new cultures. The goal is to promote cultural awareness throughout the Redeemer community.

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer lifts up the school, families, community, church, nation and world in prayer throughout the year.

Green Team

An environmental concerns club motivated by an appreciation of Creation and a desire to serve the Lord in a context of stewardship.

Outdoors Club

This club's activities range from hiking and canoeing to rock climbing and dog sledding, enjoying time off-campus on both weekend and day trips.

Tae Kwan Do

Incorporating techniques for use in self-defense, this activity is also a great cardio vascular exercise as it teaches humility, respect for others, and discipline.

Club Volleyball, Basketball

Club teams are a great way to keep active and play competitive games against other schools, without the time commitment of varsity sports.

The "A-Team"

Working with the Admissions Office, these 20 students host prospective students, give tours of the campus and assist in all campus visit events.

Kidz Club

Ministering to the neighbourhood kids of downtown Hamilton, students organize crafts, play games, and tell Bible stories to children ages 5-12.

The Living Rock

This club assists The Living Rock, which works with street-involved youth in Hamilton, ages 13-25, through a variety of food and shelter programs.

Seafarer's Ministries

Each semester, students go to the Port of Montreal for several days to interact with seafarers, help out at a soup kitchen and engage in other outreach activities.

Senior Impact

Showing God's love to the elderly residents of Versa-Care Center in downtown Hamilton by interacting with them in a meaningful way.

The Crown

The Redeemer student newspaper, *The Crown* publishes 5-6 issues per semester. It is a great opportunity for writers to get involved and develop their journalistic talent.

Imago

Redeemer's creative writing club that discusses literature and workshops each other's writing.

The Minstrel

A journal that publishes student-created art, poetry and short stories.

Yearbook

A club that meets once a week to create *Anno Domini* - Redeemer's yearbook.

Compassion Canada

Affiliated with Compassion Canada, this is an organization that is dedicated to bettering the lives of children in poverty through sponsorship programs.

H2O

Help 2 Others is a group of students who go out into surrounding communities and participate in various mission organizations or community-projects.

Thresh

Encouraging people to create and engage culture in a way that glorifies God.

Teens for Christ

Students who meet with inner-city teens to share God's Word. They also plan activities such as movie nights, bowling and other sports.

We Love to Tell a Story...

Homecoming features stories from near and far

"Ever notice what happens when a pastor, in the midst of his or her sermon, begins to tell a story as an illustration? Not to say that the rest of the content isn't worthwhile, but stories always seem to pique the congregation's interest, drawing them in to what the pastor is saying."

That observation, by Dr. Johanna Kuyvenhoven, Assistant Professor of Education, proved to be an apt theme for those alumni and friends who participated in Homecoming '05 this past October 1 at Redeemer. A founding member of the *Storytellers of Canada*, Dr. Kuyvenhoven shared ways in which teachers, parents and others tell stories to teach and learn. Using her experiences in Sierra Leone, a tale set in Siberia and examples from Jesus' ministry, Dr. Kuyvenhoven demonstrated how effective, and fun, stories can be in our lives and our witness.

That theme continued during the program that followed dinner. The evening featured stories by, and a tribute to, original faculty members Hugh Cook and Harry Van Dyke, both of whom retired at the end of this past academic year. As part of that tribute, Alison Gresik '95, author of *Bricks and Mortar*, her own collection of short stories, read one of her new original works in honour of Prof. Cook.

Proven storytellers in their own right, Van Dyke and Cook shared some of their experiences, especially from the first few years of Redeemer's existence on the Beach Boulevard.

Through those exciting, but often challenging, times, both professors felt the very real conviction that God was guiding and providing for Redeemer in so many ways.

As a retirement gift, but more importantly, as a way to say thank you to Profs. Cook and Van Dyke for their invaluable contributions over their tenure at Redeemer, the Alumni Association announced that it will be presenting a Tribute Book to both Hugh and Harry, full of papers, anecdotes, and, of course, stories by their former students (see notice on following page).

Homecoming is a chance to gather together as friends and former classmates to reminisce and catch up on what has been happening in each others' lives—in effect, to swap stories. The Alumni Board will soon begin work on next year's event, which is planned for Saturday, October 7, 2006.

Alumni who have ideas or suggestions for this or other events are encouraged to contact the Alumni Office at alumnioffice@redeemer.on.ca, or by phone (905) 648.2131, Ext. 4292.

To see more photos of the event, visit www.redeemer.on.ca/alumni/homecoming. ■



A highlight of Homecoming for most alumni is the opportunity to meet friends and former classmates



Alison Gresik reads from her story, "Understanding Fiction."



Assistant Professor of Education Dr. Johanna Kuyvenhoven's address included a Siberian tale of tigers, hunters, and kindness

Men's Alumni Soccer Team Comes Up Short at Invitational

The 5th Annual Redeemer Invitational Soccer Tournament was held on Saturday, September 10. It was a perfect day for the event, and the excitement of the day was increased with the presence of the Men's Alumni team.

The tournament started with a meeting of the current men's varsity team and the alumni team. The alumni played a methodical game and used their strength and size to their advantage. Midway through the first half, out of a scramble, Paul Winkelhorst turned quickly and found the back of the net with a half volley. As the game continued, both teams had their chances, but the varsity team seemed to gain strength. Well into the second half of the contest, Nick Bokma equalized from 6 yards out after the alumni team failed to clear the



The Redeemer Alumni Men's Soccer Team: Back Row (Left to Right): Duane Brouwer, Brad Heidbuurt, Ben Nywening, Scott Devries, Justin Anjema, Fred Breukelman, Justin Cook, Mike Baker, Jon Schat Middle Row: Nathan Cooper (with Sam), Ralph Pot, Paul Winkelhorst, Mike Dykhouse, Pete Reid, Adrian Been Front: Sam Overduin

ball. The game ended at 1-1 and needed to be decided in shootouts. Successful attempts from Mike Dykhouse, Duane Brouwer, Fred Breukelman, and Ben Nywening were not enough as all five varsity team shooters were successful.

In their second game, the alumni looked much stronger than the Conestoga Condors. Excellent

opportunities to score were created but never capitalized on, including a penalty shot attempt from Duane Brouwer. The game ended without any scoring and the alumni team again lost in the shootouts.

A big thank you to all the alumni who played and those that joined to cheer them on. We hope to see you back again for next year's tournament! ■

A Fitting Tribute

As noted in the Homecoming article, the Alumni Association is preparing a tribute to Profs. Harry Van Dyke and Hugh Cook. Alumni are encouraged to contribute to this project by forwarding academic papers, essays, anecdotes or stories that are in honour of, or reflect on, the 20-plus years these Professors have spent at Redeemer. The goal is to give Professors Van Dyke and Cook a sample of the "product" which they have helped create and shape over their tenure at Redeemer.

Please forward your contribution to the Alumni Office no later than December 15, 2005. ■

Professors Emeriti Harry Van Dyke and Hugh Cook were the guests of honour at Homecoming 2005.



Yes – There are doctors in the house!

The Redeemer community congratulates three grads from the Class of '96 who recently became doctors, each in different fields.

Heather DeHaan '96 has successfully defended her PhD thesis in Russian History at the University of Toronto (Department of History). Her dissertation concerned the planning and reconstruction of the city of Nizhnii Novgorod (Gorkii, 1932-1991) in the Stalinist 1930s. Heather's research examined how local administrators tried (and often failed) to make local needs fit with centrally-imposed plans, and how city-wide discussion and debate of the plan articulated and propagated the Soviet system.

Heather first experienced Russia as an undergraduate. In her final year at Redeemer, she participated in the Russian Studies Program of the Coalition (now called Council) of Christian Colleges and University (CCCU), of which Redeemer is a member. That program has its base in Nizhnii Novgorod, and it was during that

program that she first fell in love with the city and its people. She returned to Nizhnii Novgorod twice: in 1997-1998, as Program Assistant for the CCCU's Russian Studies Program, and in 2001, for a year of research as part of her PhD studies. Along the way, she came back to teach Russian History at Redeemer in 2003.

This August, she took up her new position as Assistant Professor of History at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton, where she is teaching Russian, East Central European and Comparative Urban History. Heather can be reached by email at hdehaan@binghamton.edu.

From the humble beginnings of a BCS from Redeemer College in 1996, to a four year stint at Queens for his MD, and a final five-year residency at University of Ottawa, the family of **Dan Reilly** is incredibly pleased (and relieved) to

announce his graduation from medical training on June 30, 2005.

Dan will be hanging his shingle and starting his career in Fergus, ON as head of the department in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Groves Memorial Community Hospital. Son Stephan (7 years old) says that it is good that his dad is finally done school and can now start working. Although Dan is now in practice, he is *still* in school; he is enrolled in the Masters of Health Science in Bioethics at the University of Toronto. Dan's wife, Beth '97, will continue to teach high school with the Upper Grand District School Board.

"Most importantly," write the Reillys, "we wish to offer thanksgiving and praise to the Lord Almighty who has been showering us with grace, love and mercy during this journey." The Reillys can be reached via email at herstory_angel@hotmail.com

Alumni - Varsity Challenge Returns

The Redeemer University College Athletic Department presents the second *QuadR.U.C.ous* weekend on November 11 & 12. Redeemer's Men's and Women's varsity teams will challenge alumni teams in both volleyball and basketball.

QuadR.U.C.ous Games: November 11-12 weekend

Friday @ 6:00 pm	Women's Basketball
Friday @ 8:00 pm	Men's Basketball
Saturday @ 12:00 pm	Women's Volleyball
Saturday @ 2:00 pm	Men's Volleyball

Everyone is encouraged to check out some great sports action! ■

"Vellinga Boys" Retain Golf Throne



The team of (l-r) Rod Vellinga '93, Greg Van Rooyen '86, Scott Robinson and John Vellinga '91 captured the 11th Annual Alumni Golf Tournament held at Knollwood Golf Course. This was the fifth time that Rod, John and Greg have been part of a team that has won the best ball tournament. Forty-four golfers participated in a day that was marked more by fun than fierce competition. ■

**Heather DeHaan**

Benita Wolters Fredlund '96 will graduate this November from the University of Toronto with a PhD in Musicology. Benita stumbled upon the topic of her dissertation – the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir – almost by chance, while doing research on another topic at the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa. After spending three days poring over documents and materials in the archive, she came to realize that not only had she chosen the right profession – “Who but an academic can get this excited about an archive?” she asks – but

**Dan Rielly (and Family)**

that she had found her dissertation topic.

Benita's dissertation tells the story of the choir's history—how the choir was made up initially of poor, working-class Eastern European Jewish immigrants, how it emerged out of the secular Jewish labour movement of the 1920s and 30s, and how its activities and political orientation shifted during World War II and the Cold War. She also shows how its history demonstrates the role of music in subcultures—how music both expresses and shapes our cultural identities, and how our understanding

**Benita Wolters Fredlund**

of musical meaning is shaped by our social, political, and historical contexts. “In this way,” she says, “my project explored a concept I first grew to understand at Redeemer—that music involves far more than ‘just’ sounds, but that it is embedded in our culture and our lives.”

Benita will have the opportunity to share that understanding with current Redeemer students – she has accepted a position as Sessional Assistant Professor of Music at Redeemer this year. ■

The votes are in....

The Redeemer Alumni Board of Directors is pleased to welcome two new Board members for three-year terms.

The changes to the Alumni Association Constitution that were proposed by the Alumni Board and announced in the June issue of *Images* have also been adopted. The revised Constitution is available on-line on at www.redeemer.on.ca/alumni, or by contacting the Alumni Office.

The Board is grateful for the contributions made by retiring Board members Al Bezuyen '98 and Jack Klooster '96. We are looking forward to using the talents and skills of these new members to develop programs and activities that benefit Redeemer, its alumni, and its students. ■

New Elected Alumni Board Members

Monica Proper Mudde

Monica graduated in 2000 with a B.Sc. in Biology. Monica lives in Hamilton with her husband James (currently a Redeemer student), and their young son. Monica is employed at E.D. Smith & Sons Ltd. as Quality Assurance Ingredient Technologist.

Sharon Timmerman VanderMeulen

Sharon graduated from Redeemer in 1989 with a major in French. After a ten-year career as a high school teacher, she is now in the fifth year of a career as a full-time, stay-at-home mom of three children. She is married to Kevin, who is Associate Professor of Mathematics at Redeemer.

Personal Touch

Tracey Buys Werkema '97 and her husband David praise God for the safe arrival of Olivia Marie, born June 15, 2005. Surprising us one month early, Olivia weighed 3 lb, 14 oz, but is healthy and strong. Olivia is a little sister for Cory (August 2001) and Julia (October 2003). The growing Werkema family continues to live near Blyth, and they remain busy with the farm and construction business.

Ruth-Ellen Wallace '03 has completed an Advanced Diploma program in Diagnostic Cytology and has recently been offered a job as a Cytotechnologist in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Address: 82 Lindenwood Drive West, Tuxedo, Manitoba. R3P 1K7; Email: redem80@hotmail.com

Dan and Nancy Smail Coutu '93 are pleased to announce the arrival of Griffin Allan, born February 8, 2005. He weighed 9lbs 4oz. A brother for Madeline (4). Nancy is taking a 7 month leave from teaching Special Education with the Algoma District School Board in Sault Ste. Marie to be at home with Madeline and Griffin. Dan is looking forward to sharing the parental leave with five months away from firefighting. Email: ncoutu@shaw.ca

Hank '99 and Michelle Schouten DeJong '97 have been blessed with a healthy baby boy. What a gift! They have named him James Albert after his beloved Opa, Albert de Jong. James weighed 8lbs at birth and both he and Michelle are doing great. Thank you for your prayers. Praising God, Hank, Michelle, Elisa and Kara.

Dave '93 and Kathy Bock Kruisselbrink '95 mourn the loss of their 5 year old daughter, Rachel Hannah, who was taken to heaven to be with her Jesus on

May 30, 2005. Despite the immense sorrow that fills our hearts, we rejoice in the assurance that she now rests in the arms of her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and we look forward to the day when we will see her again. Dave, Kathy, and their younger daughter, Breanna, live outside of Edmonton, at 54516 RR 203, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, T8L 4B6; Email: dkkruis@telus.net

Chris and Krista Posthumus Ritskes '99 are excited to announce the arrival of their first child, Arianna Joy. She's already living up to her name, bringing them much joy and laughter. Arianna was born on May 30, 2005 at 10:21am, weighing 7lbs. 13oz. Krista is on maternity leave from Immanuel Christian School in Oshawa and Chris continues to work in Port Perry as a pharmacist. They'd love to hear from old friends! Address: 1268 Dartmoor St. Oshawa, ON, L1K 2M7; Email: kritskes03@yahoo.com

Elaine de Vries '93 and her husband Paul Carter announce with joy the arrival of their daughter Simone Meredith de Vries Carter, born May 28, 2005. Paul and Elaine are both teachers and have moved from Toronto to quieter quarters in Guelph. E-mail: decart@sympatico.ca

Jason and Melissa Gerritsen Vander Wier '98 were blessed with a healthy baby boy named Lucas Andrew Vander Wier on May 9, 2005.

Kim Aukema Coutts '04 was excited to proclaim her love to her new husband, Andrew Coutts, on June 18, 2005. Working in Barrie at Big Brothers Big Sisters as a Caseworker, Kim and Andrew reside in Bradford ON. Phone: 905-775-6417; Email: kim_coutts@yahoo.ca

With Thanksgiving to God, Jeff and **Debra Van Noord Vandermeer '87** welcomed Hendrik Peter into the world on May 1st, 2005. He is a little brother for Elly. They are also looking forward to moving to Grand Rapids, Michigan in the fall of '05 where Jeff will be attending Calvin Seminary for his Masters of Divinity Degree in preparation for full time ministry in the CRC.

Shannon Spike '02 graduated this past August from the University of Guelph with an MA in Political Science. Her research focused on International Relations and Development Studies, primarily on Canadian and American immigration policies and policy harmonization. Anyone who knows of an employment opportunity in this field is invited to contact Shannon at sspike@uoguelph.ca. ■

We encourage all alumni to share with one another what is going in their lives. Whether it is a birth, wedding, job change or other significant event, send in your announcement to:

Images
Redeemer University College
777 Garner Road East
Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4

You can also submit an announcement electronically through the Alumni web-site: www.redeemer.on.ca/alumni/intouch/personaltouch.htm, or by sending an email with the details to: alumni@redeemer.on.ca.



As circumstances and opportunities have presented themselves, Redeemer's campus, and the plans for its future, has changed dramatically since 1986. This image from 2002, overlaid with the Master Plan, shows a number of recent changes to the campus, and some of the plans that are being considered to accommodate future enrolment growth.

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR
PRESENTS



THE FESTIVE VOICE

A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

FEATURING FESTIVE REPERTOIRE BY:

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HEINRICH SCHÜTZ - HODIE CHRISTUS NATUS EST

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Tickets: \$16, Students/Seniors \$13

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